TUNISIA



General	213
Buoyage System	213
Currency	213
Firing Areas	213
Fishing Areas	213
Government	214
Holidays	214
Industries	214
Languages	214
Regulations	214
Time Zone	214
U.S. Embassy	214

General

Tunisia is located in N Africa bordering the Mediterranean Sea between Algeria and Libya.

The climate is temperate in the N with mild, rainy winters and hot dry summers.

The terrain is mountainous in the N with a hot, dry central plain.

Buoyage System

The IALA Buoyage System (Region A) is in effect.

See Chart No. 1 for further IALA Buoyage System information.

Currency

The official unit of currency is the dinar, consisting of 1,000 millimes.

Firing Areas

Banzart (Bizerte) Exercise Area

A dangerous area exists to the NNE of Banzart. This area is used by the Tunisian Navy for firing practice and is bounded by

the parallels $37^{\circ}45$ 'N and $38^{\circ}00$ 'N, and the meridians $10^{\circ}15$ 'E and $10^{\circ}30$ 'E.

The firing practices are announced by Tunis Radio on the eve and the day of the exercise.

Susah (Sousse) Exercise Area

A dangerous area exists to the ESE of Susah. This area is used by the Tunisian Navy for firing practice and is bounded by the parallels 35°30'N and 35°40'N, and by the meridians 11°30'E and 11°50'E.

The firing practices are announced by Tunis Radio on the eve and the day of the exercise.

Fishing Areas

Tunny Net Areas

On shore tunny nets are marked by masonry beacons, 2.1m high, surmounted by two spherical top marks, the upper one white and the lower one red. At sea, tunny nets are marked by buoys, surmounted by a white ball over a red ball, that mark the limits of the areas occupied by the nets, corresponding to the beacons on shore.

The seaward extremities of the nets are marked by a lightboat, showing by day a white ball over a red ball, and at night two fixed lights, the upper white and the lower red.

The lightboat may be replaced by a lighted buoy showing the same signals.

Tunny nets may be set from April to August in the NE part of Golfe de Tunis at the following locations:

- 1. Sidi Daoud (37°00'N., 10°54'E.) (PA).
- 2. Ras el Ahmar (37°03'N., 10°54'E.) (PA).
- 3. El Haouaria (37°03'N., 10°59'E.) (PA).

The positions and lengths of the tunny nets can vary from one year to the next. Vessels should give the nets a wide berth and keep watch, in particular, for the tunny net of Ras el Ahmar, the end of which lies 1.4 miles S of Zembretta islet. This net is marked by a N cardinal lighted buoy.

214 Tunisia

A tunny net may be set from April to August in the area NW of Cap Zebib (37°16'N., 10°04'E.). Its extremity is marked by a N cardinal lighted buoy. Vessels should give it a wide berth.

Tunny nets may be set from April to August in the following areas

- 1. North of Munastir.
- 2. Northnorthwest of Ile Kuriat.
- 3. Northnortheast of Ras Kabudiyah.

Government

Tunisia is a republic. The capital is Tunis.

Holidays

The following holidays are observed:

Jan. 1, New Year's Day; Jan. 18, Revolution Day; Mar. 20, Independence Day; Apr. 9, Martyr's Day; May 1, Labor Day; June 1, Victory Day; June 2, Youth Day; July 12-13, Aid el Fitr; July 25, Proclamation of the Republic; Aug. 3, Anniversary of President Habib Bourguiba; Aug. 13, Women's Day; Sept. 3, Commemoration Day; Sept. 17-18, Aid el Idha; Oct. 7, Ras El Am El Hejri (Islamic New Year's Day); Oct. 15, Evacuation Day; and Dec. 17, Mouled (Prophet's Day).

Note.—The Islamic holidays in Tunisia are fixed and do not depend on the visibility of the moon.

Industries

The main industries include petroleum, mining, tourism, textiles, footwear, food, and beverages.

Languages

Arabic is the official language. French is also spoken commercially.

Regulations

Regulations concerning foreign pleasure craft entering Tunisian ports are in effect and restrict the first entry to those ports which have a Customs Officer.

Time Zone

The Time Zone description is ALPHA (-1).

U.S. Embassy

The U.S. Embassy is situated at 144 Avenue de la Liberte, 1002 Tunis-Belvedere. The mailing address is the same.